Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

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LC GOES TO CONGRESS

ALSO: The Library and the Gulf Crisis

Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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On the Cover: The dome of the Library's Jefferson Building, which was completed in 1897. The building is directly across the street from the East Front of the Capitol.

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FEDLINK Gets Books for Troops

On Jan. 23 both of the local Washington newspapers published a photograph showing Desert Storm troops, in full chemical warfare regalia, waiting out an attack alert in Saudi Arabia; one of them was reading a paperback copy of Isaac Asmimov's *Nemesis*.

How that book got into the soldier's hands reflects a longstanding commitment on the part of the military commands to provide books and other reading materials to their personnel. Books and libraries are important support elements for military units, not only overseas and in isolated areas but also on bases in the United States.

Nell Strickland, chief of the Library Program Support Office for the Army, said that for military units involved in Desert Storm the office is sending only expendable items: paperback books, magazines and newspapers. Each of the armed services purchases paperback book kits to send overseas. Each kit contains 25 titles, 60 to 65 percent fiction, 35 to 40 percent nonfiction.

The titles are selected four to five months in advance of publication by librarians in the various military commands. In the case of Desert Storm, those selections were made with the customs and sensitivities of the host country, Saudi Arabia, in mind.

Once military librarians have made the selections, a vendor purchases the books from the publishers, and then packages the books in the 25-title kits. The vendor ships the kits overseas using the facilities of the U.S. Postal Service.

The Federal Library and Information Network (FEDLINK), the operating network of the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC) in the Library of Congress, serves as the contracting vehicle for most military libraries. FEDLINK administers information service contracts on behalf of member libraries and information centers, often at significant discounts to the government. The contracts are let by one single source, LC's Contracts and Logistics Services, working with FEDLINK, and then all FEDLINK member libraries can take advantage of the contracts.

Wearing chemical warfare garb, a member of the 101st Airborne Division reads *Nemesis*. *Photo courtesy AP/Wide World Photos.*

"Forty to 50 percent of the 1,400 members of FEDLINK are military librarians or other officers," noted Mary Berghaus Levering, executive director of FLICC.

Now that Desert Shield has become Desert Storm, the number of book kits that the Army alone is shipping to troops in the Persian Gulf area has risen from 1,000 a month in September to 5,000 in January. The Army also purchases 10,000 copies of *The Army Times* for distribution as well.

"One thing that's different about Desert Storm is the humongous amount of donations [of books and magazines] that we have received and have to process," said Ms. Strickland. These are not being packaged in kits, however; donors ship them to warehouses and the Defense Logistics Agency takes over from there, packing them up, shipping them to Saudi Arabia and dividing them among the various military units stationed in the Gulf.

If the United States maintains a military presence in Saudi Arabia for a longer period of time, it is likely that a more permanent library operation will be established there.

The Army currently maintains some 230 libraries at installations around the world. They function like public libraries—and are the equivalent of special and academic libraries, especially in overseas locations—and are heavily used by military personnel. A recent survey of usage of military libraries, according to librarian Strickland, showed that 70 percent of military personnel (not counting families and military dependents) used the libraries, and

(Cont. on p. 56)

Books *(Cont. from p. 55)*
half of that usage was for educational or career development purposes.

The war has had an impact on all military libraries, with a large increase in inquiries and a huge upsurge in the use of automated data bases. And, Ms. Strickland observed wryly, "we've had a great call for the Jane's weapons reference volumes."

Making books easily available to U.S. soldiers fighting overseas is not a new idea. Almost 50 years ago, during World War II, a young officer who headed the Army's Library Section, Ray L. Trautman, came up with a plan to produce low-cost books for distribution overseas; he developed the scheme with assistance from H. Stahley Thompson, a U.S. Army graphic arts specialist. With the cooperation of American publishers, coordinated through the Council on Books in Wartime, nearly 120 million paperback volumes of the Armed Services Editions (ASE) were produced and distributed from September 1943 to September 1946.

The Armed Services Editions had an impact that was felt throughout the postwar publishing world. Novelist Wallace Stegner, who participated in the ASE program, observed in a 1982 letter to John Y. Cole, executive director of the Library's Center for the Book: "The paperback revolution that followed [the war] owed an incalculable debt to the Armed Services Editions."

In 1983 the Center for the Book celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Armed Services Editions; the Center's 1984 publication, *Books in Action: The Armed Services Editions*, tells the story of these unique volumes that meant so much to military personnel at the time.

Although Stegner wrote to Dr. Cole that "in the next war, presumably, there will not be time to read," it appears that the troops in the Persian Gulf are no less interested in reading books than were the soldiers, sailors and Marines of World War II. —*Helen Dalrymple*

LC Doing Business in Cairo, Karachi Despite Crisis

The war in the Persian Gulf has not forced changes in the day-to-day operations of the Library's office in the Middle East, located in Cairo, Egypt.

According to James C. Armstrong, assistant chief of the Overseas Operations Division, "Things have been pretty much business as usual" at the Cairo office, as of press time, Feb. 8. "We are in daily contact with the office, and so far there has been little impact, but of course that could change."

As an office of a U.S. government agency, security at the Cairo office is handled by the U.S. Embassy in Cairo. Security was recently beefed up at the office, but, says Mr. Armstrong, those added measures were "unrelated to the crisis, and the result of a previous inspection" made before the war broke out. However, the situation at the LC office in Karachi, Pakistan, is different. There, the U.S. Embassy ordered all U.S. official personnel and dependents to leave the country. Thus the U.S. field director, Helen Poe, and her husband James, a subject cataloger, were evacuated. The local Pakistani staff of 28 remains at the office, which is functioning normally.

LC's other overseas offices are unaffected. "What is most affected [for overseas staffers] is travel," said Mr. Armstrong. Travel is subject to State Department approval, which "used to be routine, but no longer," said Mr. Armstrong. "You probably wouldn't get an OK today to travel" in the Middle East, he said.

Acquisitions through the Cairo LC office from Iraq and Kuwait have ceased because of the war. According to field director Will Tuchrello, "Access to Jordanian publications may [also] be tough for a while."

APO shipments to and from Cairo and Karachi have slowed because of other burdens on the military transport system. —*Guy Lamolinara*

Map Exhibit of the Persian Gulf Opens on First Floor of Madison Building

Everyone has seen on television the large briefing map that military commanders in Saudi Arabia and at the Pentagon are using to explain the progress of the allied war effort in the Persian Gulf.

This map is the centerpiece of an exhibit of 16 maps of the Middle East, some of them comprised of several sheets, which is now on display along the green corridor adjacent to the Madison foyer. All of the maps are from the collections of the Geography and Map Division.

The war in the Persian Gulf is only the latest in the Middle East's long history of conflict, territorial change, and local rivalries, as the maps in this display help to explain.

Three of the maps in the Persian Gulf exhibit are very recent and were published with Desert Shield in mind: one is a general reference map of the Middle East published by Rand McNally in 1990, and another is a National Geographic Society map that was included as an insert in the February 1991 issue of its magazine. It is two-sided, with a general reference map of the Middle East on one side and a summary of historical conditions and current information about each country on the other.

The most unusual map in the exhibit is a 1990 Evasion Chart of Iran and Iraq, prepared by the Defense Mapping Agency for the use of allied pilots downed in combat. Printed on a durable, plasticized paper, it includes detailed intermediate-scale (1:250,000) maps of the two countries, as well as all kinds of infor-

mation that would be helpful in surviving behind enemy lines.

Pictures of edible plants and how to cook them; warnings about poisonous berries and shrubs; and instructions on orientation and position determination are all printed on the map, for example. Other helpful hints such as how to set a compass for night travel ("a 6 foot long walking stick will help if travel is necessary on totally dark nights,"), how to avoid environmental hazards in the desert and how to make a solar still are also included.

Beyond the data that are actually printed on the map, the map *itself* is designed as a survival device: to catch rain for drinking water, to use as a blanket or poncho, or even to stanch a wound.

A 1917 map showing the vast extent of the Turkish Ottoman Empire just before its demise after World War I, and a 1933 map that delineates the newly constituted states of Iraq and Syria, which became mandates of Great Britain and France after 1918, help to put the current crisis in the Persian Gulf into an historical context.

Two colorful historical maps produced for use in school classrooms show the extent and duration of the ancient empires—Babylonian, Assyrian, Median and Chaldean—of the Middle East from 1700 to 500 B.C., and the growth of Christianity, Buddhism and Islam in the area from A.D. 50 to 814.

Other items included in the display are detailed plans of the cities of Kuwait and Baghdad; tactical pilot charts; a map showing the major archaeological sites of Iraq, such as Ur and Ninevah; and a Central Intelligence Agency map of modern Iraq with insets showing population, economic activity, land use and religious and ethnic makeup.

The Persian Gulf maps will be on display indefinitely; some large-scale maps may be changed to highlight specific areas as the action in the war shifts from place to place.

—Helen Dalrymple

The Library During Wartime:
The Korean Conflict

The pages of the LC *Information Bulletin* during the 1950–53 "police action" in Korea describe LC activities of a somewhat different nature from those in World War II.

Some, like the air raid drills, civil defense exhibits and American Red Cross blood drives for the Korean front, were directly supportive of the war effort and reminiscent of efforts during World War II (see LC *Information Bulletin*, Feb. 11, 1991). Other programs mirrored the new issues and technology of the 1950s.

In 1950, through CARE in Korea, the Library furnished books to the Korean National Library in Seoul, while in 1952, more than 1,500 tons of newsprint were shipped to the South Korean Ministry of Education through joint effort by the United States, Canada and Japan. The high-grade newsprint, intended for use by Korean publishers in producing 7 million textbooks for Korean primary and secondary schools, was valued at nearly $250,000.

The importance of the library on a military post to soldiers and their families was the subject in 1951 of a panel discussion at the 75th anniversary conference of the American Library Association in Chicago. The censorship problem in military libraries (Is this book appropriate? Subversive? Moral?) was a leading topic for discussion at the ALA conference the following year.

During Christmastime 1951, the Copyright Office arranged air transport for a book projector for the U.S. Naval Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan. Copyright staff had purchased this for the patients there, at the suggestion of Navy Lt. (and former LC nurse) Miriam I. Stine. Said she:

"Operated by the touch of a finger, elbow or toe (this machine) will turn pages and throw the printed page on the ceiling or opposite wall . . . for these boys who must adapt

(Cont. on p. 58)

Espionage at LC! Which spy put which microfilm into which card catalog drawer? Ray Milland looks askance in the Main Reading Room in 1952's "The Thief."

On Nov. 2, 1951, Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh (the future Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip) enter the Jefferson Building accompanied by Vernor Clapp, chief assistant Librarian of Congress.

Korean War *(Cont. from p. 57)*
themselves and their futures to the difficult decision that they will spend the rest of their days flat in bed, completely dependent on others. [The book projector] affords them a certain degree of independence, which is so vitally necessary, especially in the early days of their convalescence."

Previous wars were not forgotten during the Korean conflict. For example, in 1952 there was an installation on the balcony of the Main Reading Room of a memorial banner with army, air force and navy insignia of all the World War II allies on the European front under Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower; the general had presented it to the Library in 1946.

An elm tree at the southwest corner of the Library grounds, which had served as a memorial to the Library's war dead since 1948, was the site of a staff commemorative service begun in 1952, at the suggestion of Mary W. MacNair of the Cataloging Division.

The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, back from World War II safekeeping at Fort Knox, Ky., were transferred in 1953 from the Library to the National Archives to be enshrined there with the Bill of Rights.

New issues also emerged: the use, and the implications of possible misuse, of the 'loyalty investigation'—and exactly how its use might apply to the LC staff—were subjects of discussion as early as 1950. (While it was conceded that such investigations might be necessary for a few positions here, Library management was alerted to possible abuses of such investigations in the employment process.)

The Commerce Department at this time issued a modification of export regulations that removed export barriers of publications to all areas of the world—except North Korea, but this liberalization would also permit normal library exchange relations with other communist countries.

Major Gen. Edgar Erskine Hume presented the Library with one of the posters displayed all over Korea when troops landed there in July 1950. Called "Welcome United Nations Forces" and depicting the flags of the United Nations, South Korea and the United States, the poster went on display in the Great Hall in the autumn of 1950. At this same time, the Map Division displayed maps of the North Korean border with Manchuria and of the border cities of Antung in Manchuria and Sinuiju, North Korea, the "jumping-off" points for Chinese troops into Korea.

(Geography and Map has just installed an exhibit in the Madison Foyer on the Persian Gulf; story on page 56.)

Two bibliographies of Korean publications, one for Russian-language materials and one for those in Far Eastern languages, were published by the Card Division in 1950 and 1951.

On display in the Annex (now called Adams) Building in 1952 was an exhibit of the best 20th century Korean books, including dictionaries, directories, newspapers and journals, poetry and fiction, as well as writings on politics, law, medicine, economics and agriculture. This was a collection acquired by LC Korea specialist Evelyn B. McCune during her 1952 journey to Japan and Korea under the auspices of LC and the State Department. The collection represented the most important modern Korean writings of the era.

During her stay in Korea, Mrs. McCune later recounted witnessing the political struggle for the presidency and the election and inauguration of the Korean president, Syngman Rhee, in August 1952, followed by a drought and military disturbances. The highlight of her visit, however, was her introduction to leading Korean publishers and librarians, and the opportunity this afforded her to collect information on Korean authors.

Seeing this collection (and some of the LC Korean Collection) the following year was the chief goal of Korean Ambassador Dr. You Chan Yang during his meeting with Librarian of Congress Luther H. Evans.

Even early in the conflict, the Orientalia Division hosted educators from Seoul. Continuing questions on the culture of the Korean penin-

sula occupied many researchers during this period

Peripheral to the wartime situation and the new 1950s brand of paranoia it generated – some LC staffers were spotlighted in the spy thriller "The Thief," released by United Artists in 1952. Starring Ray Milland in a "silent" (without dialogue but with incidental noises), "The Thief" was partially filmed on site here and featured the Main Reading Room as a centerpiece, with spies planting microfilm in the drawers of the card catalog – for pickup by other agents! (Coincidentally, "The Thief" has just been released for home video.)

In other LC imagery, the Dumont Television Network broadcast "Time for Defense" of Jan. 14, 1952, featured mention by the Defense Department of the Library's exhibit of combat photography then on display.

Two royal figures of significant destiny were to visit the Library during the Korean conflict.

On Nov. 2, 1951, their royal highnesses Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh visited here as a part of their tour of Washington. Both expressed interest in the Library's preservation efforts and techniques, most notably those recently employed for the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. From among the items shown to her, Princess Elizabeth expressed particular interest in a parchment letter of condolence handwritten by her grandmother, Queen Victoria, to the wife of President Abraham Lincoln, after his assassination in 1865.

A special facsimile copy of this letter and its envelope, including a historical note by David C. Mearns, chief, Manuscript Division, was presented in 1952 at Buckingham Palace by Librarian Luther Evans as a gift to the royal visitor. During the intervening year she had become Queen of England.

Her coronation did not occur until 1953 and was marked by a concurrent LC exhibit of illustrations of the ceremonies and regalia, a contemporary two-volume reproduction of the 1596 edition of Spenser's *The Faerie Queene* (celebrating Queen Elizabeth I), several precious 17th century coronation editions from the LC collections, along with one formerly belonging to the last Russian czar, Nicholas II, depicting the 1911 coronation of the Queen's parents, George V and Queen Mary.

The second royal visitor arrived Sunday morning Aug. 17, 1952. His Majesty King Faisal II of Iraq visited the Library for a tour that included the Great Hall, the Main Reading Room, and exhibits of Americana and of the Gutenberg Bible and the Giant Bible of Mainz. He was also shown Iraqi manuscripts and publications.

Hosted by Vernor Clapp as acting Librarian and accompanied by his official party as well as Sen. Theodore Green, a Rhode Island Democrat, and State Department officials, King Faisal was treated to a demonstration of the workings of the pneumatic book-paging system in the Jefferson Building control room. A copy of Julian Boyd's *The Declaration of Independence: The Evolution of the Text*, especially inscribed by the Library as a gift to the King, was forwarded from the Adams building and emerged from the book cartridge.

King Faisal II (like his cousin King Hussein of Jordan) was a member of the Hashemite dynasty unpopular in Iraq at the time. On July 14, 1958, a military coup in Baghdad overthrew the monarchy, in a bloodbath. Faisal, his uncle Crown Prince Abdul Illah and members of the royal family were assassinated, and Premier Nuri as-Said was executed.

Soon after the war ended in July 1953, Akhito, the Crown Prince of Japan, visited the Library with his party, which included the Japanese ambassador and the grand chamberlain, on Sept. 9. He was welcomed by acting Librarian of Congress Vernor W. Clapp and viewed a special LC exhibit of Japanese materials displayed in his honor. He showed particular interest in the *Dhaarni Sutra*, an eighth century Buddhist charm printed on a scroll and enclosed in a wooden pagoda, the oldest example of the printing process in the Library.

On Jan. 7, 1989, hours after the death of his father, Emperor Hirohito, who had ruled since 1925, Akihito ascended the Chrysanthemum Throne as the present Emperor of Japan. *– John J. Wayne*

NEXT: LC during the Vietnam War.

During his Aug. 17, 1952, visit to LC, King Faisal II of Iraq was shown the book-paging system. With the king (center) are William Sartain of General Reference (right) and Vernor Clapp (back to camera).

Frederick Goff, chief of the Rare Book Division in 1945–72, examines a copy of the *Acts of Assembly of Virginia*, from the Jefferson collection.

LC in the News

☐ An article in the January *Atlantic Monthly* notes that author-educator Hubert Skinner accorded the basis for much of Abraham Lincoln's political success to his use of the Library of Congress.

Mr. Skinner, in a 1909 lecture during the centennial of Lincoln's birth, said, "Mr. Lincoln had been a puzzle, and a subject of amusement to his fellows. He did not drink, use tobacco, or bet, or swear. It would seem that he must be a very rigid churchman.

"But no," Skinner continued, "he did not belong to any church; and he soon became reckoned an 'unbeliever.' How did he occupy his spare time? He was mousing among the books of the old Congressional Library. . . . 'Bah!' said his fellow Congressmen. 'He is a bookworm!'"

That Congressional Library, or the Library of Congress, during the 1940s was housed in the Capitol, directly across the street from where Lincoln (who was a representative from Illinois in 1847–49) lived.

According to the article's author, Douglas L. Wilson, the Library was housed "in what some regarded as the most beautiful suite of rooms in the city." LC was also a "popular Capitol Hill meeting place, and for a sociable young congressman living most of the time alone in a boarding house, this aspect of the library must have been very appealing. For the research that went into his congressional speeches, the library's resources were clearly indispensable."

The *Atlantic* article, "What Jefferson and Lincoln Read," says that LC's acquisition of Jefferson's library after the British burned the Capitol in 1814 "gave rise to the notion that [the Library] ought to become a national library."

The third president was Lincoln's hero, and "in his first year in Congress, Lincoln had an opportunity to vote for the purchase of Jefferson's papers."

☐ The legacy of Thomas Jefferson also figured during the first lady's most recent visit to the Library.

Barbara Bush came Jan. 23 (see LC *Information Bulletin*, Feb. 11, 1991) to receive an award from the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science. The event was covered by both *The Washington Post* and *The Washington Times*.

"Barbara Bush is big on Thomas Jefferson," said *The Post*. "Thomas Jefferson and James Madison set what they called 'objects of primary education,'" Mrs. Bush said at the ceremony.

And in *The Times*: "In spite of a recently broken leg, terrorism threats by Saddam Hussein and a busy schedule, Barbara Bush took time . . . to boost the cause with which she is identified most closely—literacy."

☐ On a musical note, the Jan. 4 *San Diego Union* describes Gillian Anderson as a "librarian [who] takes the silence out of old films."

A conductor, scholar and librarian, the Music Division's Ms. Anderson has restored the score for D. W. Griffith's "Way Down East" of 1920. On Jan. 4 in San Diego, she led a 34-piece orchestra, plus four vocalists, in a performance of the film's original score "the way it was supposed to be done," she said, "not only with full orchestra but with vocalists and special effects."

Film synchronization, as Ms. Anderson calls it, places unusual restrictions on an orchestra. When conducting a synchronized score, one finds out that "a second is a very long time," she said. "If you get behind by a second, you're dead."

—*Guy Lamolinara*

Gillian Anderson

Billington Testifies on Capitol Hill

Asks Congress for $359 Million FY '92 Budget

Dr. Billington Feb. 6 testified to Congress that it had an extraordinary opportunity to help the Library mobilize its resources "to meet the nation's present and future needs in education, economic competitiveness and international security."

"It is in order to serve the future—and not merely celebrate the past—that I come before you today with a [fiscal 1992] budget request for a total of $359,962,000, including authority to obligate $23,292,000 in receipts, for a net of $336,670,000," he told the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch, chaired by Rep. Vic Fazio, a California Democrat.

The Librarian's testimony, backed up by testimony from other senior LC officials, was the first round in the lengthy annual appropriations process. Dr. Billington is expected to appear before the Senate appropriations subcommittee in April.

The total requested increase of $54,965,000 includes additional offsetting collections of $3,407,000, for a net increase of $51,558,000.

The proposed LC budget focused heavily on automation—modernizing LC's aging computer systems and installing new technology to improve and enlarge the Library's data base and begin the analysis to bring the content of its collections on-line to serve people across the nation.

All told, a $7.6 million increase was requested for automation. The total budget increase of $54,965,000—or 18 percent—over fiscal 1991 has two almost equal parts:

The first part is $27.3 million for mandatory pay and price level increases needed to sustain current efforts, including what Dr. Billington called "our highest priority attack" on LC's much-publicized 40 million-item backlog of unprocessed items.

The second part of the increase—$27.7 million—embraces automation as well as money for preservation, exhibits, acquisitions, service in the renovated reading rooms and the Law Library, better financial management and four additional affirmative action internships (for a total of eight permanent slots).

On hand in Room H301 of the Capitol were Republicans Jerry Lewis of California and Barbara F. Vucanovich of Nevada, and Democrats Robert J. Mrazek of New York, Bill Alexander of Arkansas and Chairman Fazio. Among those testifying were Winston Tabb, acting Deputy Librarian, Donald C. Curran, associate librarian for Constituent Services; Henriette D. Avram, associate librarian for Collections Services; Rhoda W. Canter, associate librarian for Management Services; John Y. Cole, acting associate librarian for Cultural Affairs; Ralph Oman, Register of Copyrights; Joseph E. Ross, director of the Congressional Research Service; Kurt Cylke, director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped; Alan Jabbour, director of the American Folklife Center; James R. Trew, director of Integrated Support Services; Herbert S. Becker, director of Information Technology Services; and Kenneth E. Harris, director for Preservation.

All told, the question-and-answer session—notably about the film preservation board, progress in the anti-arrearage battle, the planned startup of mass book deacidification, the evolution and future of the American Memory project—lasted almost four hours. But the Gulf War intruded; several members had to leave to attend a congressional briefing by Defense Secretary Richard B. Cheney and General Colin L. Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. But at the end, Chairman Fazio complimented the Library on steady improvement in management and on tackling its long-standing problems, such as arrearages.

"The second part of the [requested budget increase] is needed to prepare the Library of Congress for the extraordinary opportunities it has as the nation's largest information and knowledge base to mobilize its resources for new national uses in the 1990s and beyond. The [additional funds] would be used to improve the organization, preservation, access to and usage of our great collections of 97 million items."

—James H. Billington

The text of the appropriation request submitted for the record by Dr. Billington is published below:

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee:

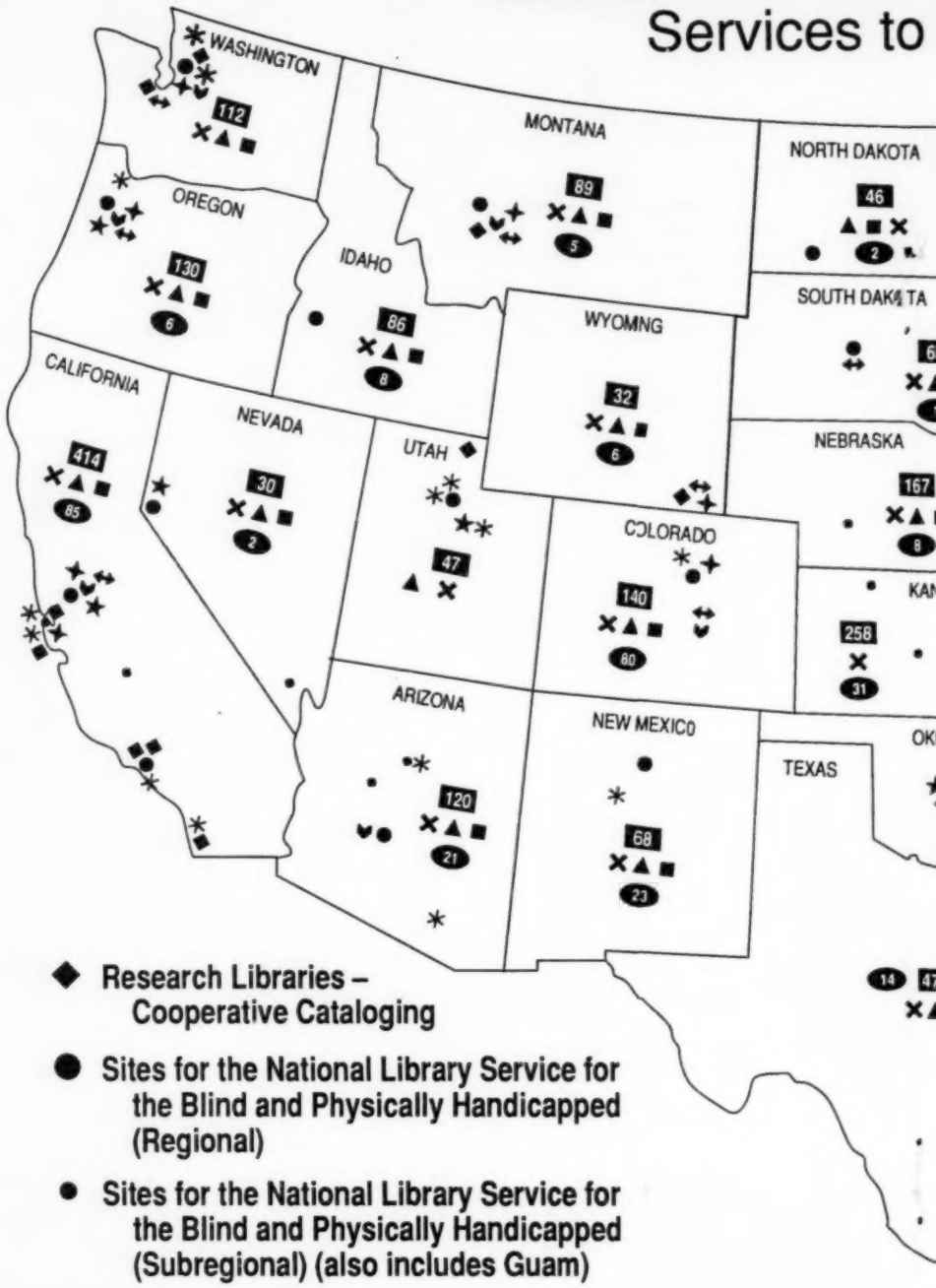
I appreciate the opportunity to appear here to address the Library of Congress budget request for fiscal year 1992.

The request before you is for a total of $359,962,000, including authority to obligate $23,292,000 in receipts, for a net of $336,670,000. This is a net increase of $51,558,000 over fiscal 1991. This budget request represents a long-term effort that we must now begin in order

(Cont. on p. 64)

LIBRARY OF

Services to



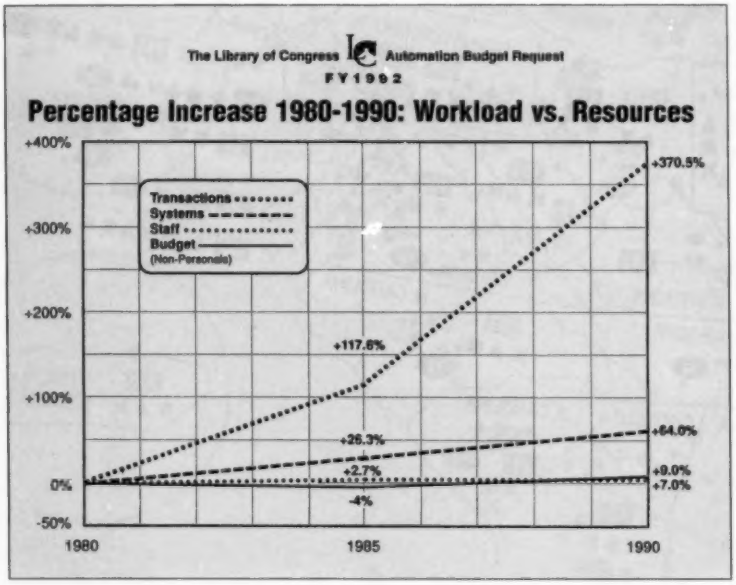
- ◆ Research Libraries – Cooperative Cataloging
- ● Sites for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (Regional)
- • Sites for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (Subregional) (also includes Guam)
- ✕ Interlibrary Loans (also includes Guam)
- ✦ Sites for Traveling Exhibits
- ■ Surplus Books Donations (also includes Guam)
- ⮟ State Centers for the Book

F CONGRESS
to the Nation

Budget Request *(Cont. from p. 61)* to build a solid base for our future service to the nation in the information age.

This increase has two almost equal parts. The first is $27.3 million for mandatory pay and price level increases needed to maintain our current efforts—including the attack on our 40 million-item backlog of unprocessed items, a task from which we must not retreat. Thus, sustaining our present operations accounts for half of the requested budget increase.

The second part of the increase—$27.7 million—is needed to prepare the Library of Congress for the extraordinary opportunities it has as the nation's largest information and knowledge base to mobilize its resources for new national uses in the 1990s and beyond. The $27.7 million would be used to improve the organization, preservation, access to and usage of our great collections of 97 million items. Of this, $7.6 million is for new automation systems, $6 million for book preservation with newly perfected cost-effective techniques, $4.5 million for support services, $1.9 million for storage space for the collections and $1.3 million for the Copyright Office, most of which will be recovered by a copyright fee increase.



Operations. To put our budget request in perspective, I would like to highlight some of our major accomplishments of the past year. The Library:

☐ completed 509,000 research assignments for Congress. The Library cataloged 198,000 books at an estimated savings to the nation's libraries of at least $370 million in cataloging costs.

☐ processed 685,000 claims for copyright and answered more than 435,000 copyright inquiries. We circulated, through a network of 160 libraries across America, 20,500,000 disks, cassettes and braille items to nearly 700,000 blind and physically handicapped patrons.

☐ served some 1,040,000 readers in the general and special reading rooms, circulating over 2.5 million items. We responded to more than 53,000 requests from local libraries around the country for free interlibrary loan services.

Moreover, in planning for the Library of Congress in the 21st century, we began to implement new programs and services directed at sharing our resources more widely. For example, LC:

☐ started LC Direct, an experimental service offered to the 50 state libraries to provide on-line access to the LC electronic data bases.

☐ advised the nation's science and technology information community in order to develop new and improved services for scientists and students, including electronic delivery of information.

☐ conducted our second Educators Institute for teachers and librarians from 38 states on the Columbus Quincentennial and began planning a third institute (on the Bill of Rights) for this summer.

☐ tested the multimedia American Memory project, which shares Library of Congress resources, at 11 school and library sites and planned an expansion to 30 additional sites.

☐ opened our first "states of the nation" exhibit in Oregon: "Uncle Sam in the Oregon Country," a 30-panel educational exhibit reproduced from the Library's collections.

Technology and the 21st Century. As we move toward the 21st century, one of the major challenges of the Library is to stay abreast of expanding knowledge and to share this knowledge more widely with the American people. Emerging national electronic networks make this possible. Using the Library's enormous assets is essential if the United States is to stay competitive in world markets.

A recent study issued by Harvard University on the "information industry" in the U.S. (1975-87) stated that the information industry accounted for $1.8 trillion in 1987 revenues—40 percent of the gross national product. The study further

stated that the annual growth rate for the information industry was 12 percent. The Library, as the nation's prime source of information and knowledge, can make a major contribution to this growing industry in information, to education and to American enterprises in a world of harsh competition.

The Library is finding, through technology, new ways of serving American education. Our American Memory project—with its unique multimedia technology—points to what can be done.

In a recent evaluation of the test site participants for the project, a seventh grade teacher from Orangevale, Calif., reported: "It is a wonderful device to get children interested in research. . . . You get double value for your time because they get access to technology and they also get access to the wonderful resources."

A Fairfield, Calif., assistant principal said: "I could see every social science teacher at my high school using this with all levels of kids."

An English teacher in Oakton, Va., said that the political cartoon collection in the prototype "would be really useful with group work. . . . It would allow kids to form their own interpretations and then compare them with the original intents."

Arrearages. I appreciate the support and understanding that this subcommittee has given the Library in past years. As I promised last year, we are working on all fronts to attack the arrearage problem. By the end of this month we will have over a third of the approved new staff on board to help us, and we are actively recruiting the rest. Reducing arrearages is the No. 1 priority of the Library.

We have been looking at innovative approaches to involve senior managers and library professionals who are not catalogers in the arrearage reduction program. For example:

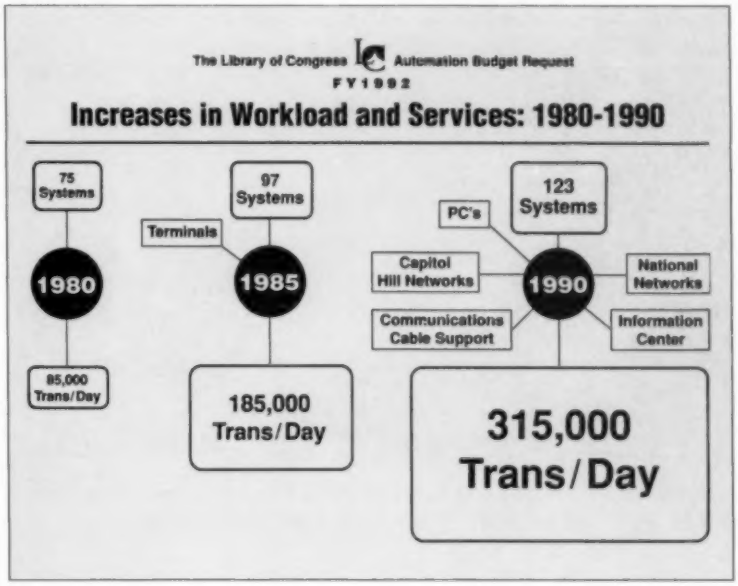
☐ division chiefs in Constituent Services will devote a specified time period collating serials;

☐ we will designate "production only" days in which employees will devote the entire day to their assigned tasks without attending meetings or engaging in travel or training;

☐ we will be soliciting Library staff to volunteer at least eight hours this fiscal year to work on arrearage reduction;

☐ we will increase our use of minimal-level cataloging and copy cataloging done by other libraries;

☐ our staff bulletins will devote a series of articles on the importance of arrearage reduction; and



☐ we will utilize the incentive award system to reward cataloging staff for increases in productivity.

Automation. The 1992 budget request reflects what the Library should be doing to become the national information base for Congress and the American people in the 21st century. No other institution in the world can provide what the Library can for the nation as a whole, just as no other nation in the world has the potential to give more to the information age than America.

So in essence, this special request for modernization is a plea to support the infrastructure for our future competitiveness. We are requesting an increase of $7.6 million for automation: modernizing technology that permits us to organize, retrieve and inform our users about the 97 million items in our collections.

Increased dependence on emerging national information networks by government officials, state and national legislators, scholars, scientists, business executives and educators requires the Library to upgrade its automation support systems to meet expanding demands. The national research and educational network that is coming into being requires the full participation of the Library.

Expanded usage is precisely what we want to serve the nation better, but it requires us to replace our aging automation systems at a faster pace than current resources allow. [LC's current searching data bases] are increasingly obsolete and user-unfriendly. We must install new technology to improve and enlarge the Library's data base and begin bringing the content of its collections on-line.

The Library's automation budget has not kept pace with the demands for

(Cont. on p. 66)

Budget Request *(Cont. from p. 65)*
computerization within the Library and outside. As a result, our automation staff has had to focus on maintenance rather than on building new systems to meet new needs.

Our automation workload has grown from supporting 75 systems in 1980 to supporting 123 systems in 1990—an increase of 64 percent. During this period, funding for automation equipment and related items has increased only 9 percent, with a staffing increase of a mere 7 percent. The $7,644,902 requested includes $5,483,000 for nonpersonal services—including computer workstations, 800 billion bytes of storage and expansion of our network and optical item production level.

We are also requesting $279,393 to fund 10 new positions to provide in-house quality control and to monitor the books being treated to ensure the effectiveness of the treatment. This is vital to the success of the Library's deacidification program.

Finally, under preservation, we are seeking a price-level increase to support the Library's ability to microfilm books that are too brittle to save. This is a major component in the National Preservation Microfilming Program—a cooperative national program supported by libraries across the country with assistance from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Dr. Billington and the first lady discuss literacy problems in the United States, which LC's Center for the Book has been tackling.

disk capability. It also includes $2,161,902 for 15 new positions and 26 unfinanced positions, which will allow us to accelerate rebuilding outmoded systems.

Preservation. Preservation of the Library's priceless collections has long been one of our grave preoccupations. Sustaining this collection for future generations is one of our most fundamental obligations. Congress has played a primary role in the world with its long support of the Library regarding preservation. I am happy to report that, after years of testing, we will let one or more contracts during fiscal 1991 for mass deacidification of deteriorating library materials.

We plan to deacidify approximately 300,000 books in fiscal 1992; thereafter 1 million books a year at an estimated cost of $7.50 per book. We are requesting $4,870,000 in no-year money for this purpose. This request, plus funds available for deacidification that have already been appropriated, will permit the first 1 million-

Managing and Servicing the Collections. We are requesting an increase of $638,000 to sustain purchasing power for books and other materials for the general collections and the Law Library. The average cost of library materials has risen 10 percent from 1989 costs.

The Library is currently developing a new automated system known as ACQUIRE to provide more comprehensive control of our acquisitions activities, including an increased emphasis on acquiring materials through copyright, gift and international exchange. We are requesting $494,517 for 17 unfinanced positions to support this and other acquisition activities.

We are requesting $326,785 for nine unfinanced positions under Collections Services to increase the security and accessibility of our special collections. This is needed because of the tremendous growth in non-book materials, in certain area studies collections and in the demand to use them.

For example, during the last decade the Chinese collections have grown at an annual rate of 14,000 volumes, with an 85 percent increase in readership. During the same period, our manuscript collections have grown 50 percent, while the number of reference staff has remained the same. The Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division collections have tripled in size, while the reference staff has decreased by 50 percent.

The newly renovated and restored Main Reading Room—our nation's symbol of learning—will reopen in the Jefferson Building in June. With the generous support of Congress, this reading room will both retain its historical architecture and dignity and provide new on-line access to the Library's computerized files and other state-of-the-art technology. We are asking now for the human resources needed to make this great congressional investment in beauty and scholarship work efficiently for our users.

The Science Reading Room will also reopen in fiscal 1991 when the Social Science Reading Room closes for renovation.

These changes will provide 787 seats for readers in the general reading rooms—a 33 percent increase in seating capacity as a result of renovation. We are asking Congress to fund 30 unfinanced positions to staff these and the other reading rooms.

We have maintained a nearly 20 percent vacancy rate over the past few years in reader services. Demand for reference assistance and for circulation of books within our Capitol Hill buildings is expected to rise by 30 percent in fiscal 1992. Deck attendants and technicians are necessary to make the national collections accessible to all readers.

The European and Hispanic divisions, for which we are requesting area studies specialists, have faced specially increased demand from Congress, the scholarly community and the general public. These area specialists are needed to assist in the development of the collections as well as to provide reference and research assistance. We are also requesting funding for three positions to improve our congressional loan service. Ten new positions are required to begin operation of a temporary Collections Storage Facility.

Law Library. The Law Library—the only comprehensive legal research library in the U.S. government—needs increased resources to exploit fully its potential. Our distinguished new law librarian is finding new ways to integrate foreign legal services with other congressional services, as well as to serve the legal community better.

Foreign and international law plays a greater role in the deliberations of Congress and the government than ever before. More resources are necessary to revitalize the Law Library. We are requesting $591,174 for

12 unfunded positions, including three European legal specialists, a foreign legal specialist in civil law to coordinate access to foreign legal data bases, and a chief of the American-British Law Division to coordinate a national legal outreach program and manage the Law Library Reading Room--one of the most heavily used reading rooms in the Library.

We should not lose this opportunity to prepare Congress' Law Library for a new century that promises even more demands for legal research.

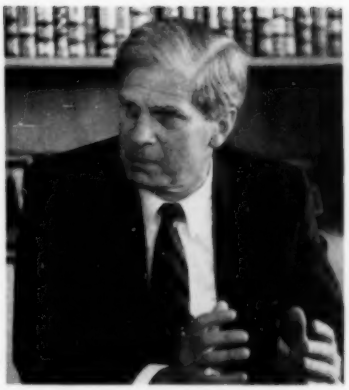
Cultural Services. The Cultural Affairs service unit contributes directly to the nation's education and intellectual life through programs that promote use of the Library's resources and expand its national audience. We are requesting $406,080 to fund six unfinanced positions and for badly needed support for our exhibits, publications and other educational activities. Traveling exhibits have generated great enthusiasm and educational activity in local communities, and exhibits are planned for 16 states in 1992.

Management Support. If the Library of Congress is a key part of the infrastructure of the information age, Management Services is the infrastructure of the Library. For Management Services, we are requesting a growing workload increase of $3,504,014. This will enable us to:

- ☐ begin the development of a timely and effective financial reporting system as recommended by the audit that the Library requested from the General Accounting Office;
- ☐ enhance the efficiency of our human resources with special emphasis on affirmative action and training; and
- ☐ shore up our facilities, procurement and mail operations.

For the past several years I have been looking at resource allocation in the Library in the hope of shifting activities more efficiently within our base. We are requesting $255,937 for five unfinanced positions to improve our ability to provide essential financial and management information precisely in order to be able to make these tough choices in a fully professional manner.

We are requesting funding for four affirmative action intern positions to allow for a permanent affirmative action intern program of eight positions. At a recent meeting of senior managers at the Library, our current affirmative action interns talked about their experiences. Their enthusiasm for new training opportunities was contagious. It reinforced my conviction that these internships by women and minorities



"The Library cataloged 198,000 books at an estimated savings to the nation's libraries of at least $370 million in cataloging costs."

can not only contribute to reducing underrepresentation in various job categories of the Library but also unleash new enthusiasm and productivity in the work force generally.

We have interns currently serving in the following categories: librarian; budget analyst; contracting specialist; and computer specialist.

Finally, for Management Services, we are requesting funds to improve our building facilities services, including industrial health, mail and delivery operations, and procurement activities--all of which are currently suffering from lack of adequate staffing.

Space. In addition to our request for interim space, we are requesting an additional $1.1 million in our space rental budget--a 49 percent increase--due to newly imposed General Service Administration rate increases. The increase is not necessarily correlated with increased payments to building owners but will go into a pool of money for the improvement of government buildings.

I believe that the Library and the legislative branch would be better served, at considerable savings, if the Architect of the Capitol were to act as our leasing agent in lieu of the General Services Administration. I have discussed this with [Architect of the Capitol] George White, who is agreeable to this. We will need congressional authority to do so and will be requesting appropriate legislation. This is in line with the Committee's directive to the Architect about finding warehouse space for the legislative branch.

For our immediate needs we have presented a 1991 reprogramming request to you for authority to lease space to accommodate the arrearage project.

The Library is especially grateful to this subcommittee for its support of the acquisition for the Library of the Sixth and East Capitol streets property. We are working with the Architect of the Capitol, and hope that we can move forward with the badly needed child care facility as soon as possible.

Copyright. For the Copyright Office we are requesting an increase of $3.2 million for mandatory costs, unfunded positions and an optical disk system to improve service to copyright users as well as to free up badly needed space. This increase is virtually offset by an increase of $3.1 million in collections resulting from the Jan. 3 fee increase.

Congressional Research Service. Additional funds for the Congressional Research Service are needed to meet mandatory costs, to improve CRS capability to conduct quantitative analysis, which is essential as the Congress grapples with complex social problems accounting for over half of federal outlays, and to support its access to reference data bases, needed to provide timely research to Congress.

National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Finally, we are asking for an increase of $1,720,000 to maintain the highly popular reading program for the blind and physically handicapped at the 1991 level. For the first time, funds for development and production of talking book machines are being requested as no-year funds to avoid their cancellation before delivery of the machines. This change is mandated by a new law enacted during the last Congress (P.L. 101-510) relating to obligation of funds.

Conclusion. In sum, Mr. Chairman and members of this subcommittee, the Library of Congress--as it moves toward its bicentennial in the year 2000--with appropriate congressional support will be able to reach out to our citizens in our cities and townships in the 50 states to meet their knowledge needs in the age of information. Congress' support of this incomparable base of knowledge has made us ready to exploit fully the Library's potential to be not just the greatest but the most useful intellectual resource in the history of civilization.

LC Names New Development Director

Cathleen Clinton has been named director of development for the Library of Congress, James H. Billington, Librarian of Congress, has announced. She assumed her responsibilities Feb. 3.

Ms. Clinton, who comes to the Library from the Washington Center, an educational association for college internships and academic seminars, brings to the Library more than a decade of experience with fundraising, private sector relations and volunteer support groups.

Dr. Billington cited Ms. Clinton's vigor and success in her past fundraising posts. "We have great confidence that, with help from all of us, Cathleen Clinton will bring us the professionalism to help us realize the great opportunities that lie ahead."

The director of development is responsible for all fundraising for the Library. In consultation with the Librarian and other officials, she formulates comprehensive private sector development plans as part of LC's overall strategic plan for the future. She and her aides, Marie Anderson and Norma Baker, advise Library managers on fundraising projects, coordinate Library approaches to prospective donors and support the activities of the James Madison National Council and other groups associated with the Library.

Photo by Alex Pohl

Before serving as the Washington Center's vice president for resource development, Ms. Clinton was director of development for the Archdiocese of Washington, working under the supervision of Cardinal James Hickey. There she directed a new office created to generate $25 million for endowment, schools and programs for the Catholic Church of Washington. Ms. Clinton was regional director of development for the University of Notre Dame in 1982–87, serving as the university's first female development officer. She designed, opened and operated the university's satellite fundraising office in Palm Beach County, Fla., which raised in excess of $25 million, including the largest single gift ($8 million) received in Notre Dame history at that time.

In 1979–82, Ms. Clinton was alumni director for Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va., where she coordinated all phases of activities for an alumni constituency of 30,000. She also chaired the first statewide Virginia Alumni and Development Association Conference.

Born in Cleveland, she is a graduate of Emmanuel College in Boston, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in English and education. She received a master's degree in fine arts/art history from Georgetown University in 1979.

Director for Cataloging Sought by Library

The Library of Congress is seeking applicants for the position of director for cataloging, which became vacant in February. The position is graded at a GS-17 with a starting salary of $83,032.

The Library catalogs more than 200,000 items a year, providing the core of the nation's bibliographic apparatus. The director, serving under the associate librarian for Collections Services, administers 11 divisions with more than 600 employees who catalog books, microforms, music, audiovisual materials and computer files.

The directorate is responsible for developing rules for cataloging and classification, providing technical advice to other units throughout the Library, and coordinating cataloging projects that cross administrative lines. In addition, the director serves as the Library's primary liaison with cataloging groups both nationally and internationally.

Anyone interested in this position should submit an SF-171 (Application for Federal Employment) to the Library of Congress, Human Resources Operations Office, 101 Independence Ave., SE, Room LM-107, Washington, DC 20540.

If there are any questions regarding this vacancy, call Jim Carroll at (202) 707-9147.

LC 'Unmasks' New Publication

"Wearing masks is what writers do, and the masks that one assumes as a writer serve the same purposes as those at Mardi Gras: they reveal; they conceal; they exaggerate and they do it all for the sake of getting at some truth that is often seen but not fully understood," explains Elaine Konigsburg in *The Mask Beneath the Face*, a lecture that has just been published by the Library.

Sponsored by LC's Center for the Book and the Florida Center for the Book, the talk was presented at a "Year of the Young Reader" conference on writing for young readers held in Pembroke Pines, Fla., in 1989. The author draws on books such as *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* and her own works such as *Jennifer, Hecate, Macbeth, William McKinley and Me, Elizabeth* (1967) and *Up From Jericho Tel* (1986).

The Mask Beneath the Face, a 31-page booklet, includes four illustrations by the author. Single copies are available by mail for $3.95 plus $2 postage and handling from the Publishing Office, Box J, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540, or the Broward Public Library Foundation, Florida Center for the Book, Broward County Library, 100 S. Andrews, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. Postage and handling for multiple copies is $3.50.

Cataloging in Publication Ends Moratorium

On Jan. 28, 1991, the Cataloging in Publication Division ended the moratorium that limited publisher participation in the CIP program to the levels as of Jan. 2, 1990, when the moratorium was imposed.

The moratorium was implemented because staff shortages of 10 to 20 percent and more had been constant throughout the cataloging divisions for the past two years while the demand for CIP cataloging climbed. As production increased in fiscal 1989 by more than 10 percent, the amount of time required to process applications for CIP data increased, which in turn created production scheduling problems for publishers.

Several options to stem this decline in service were considered, but only one, a moratorium restricting publisher participation in the CIP program to its current levels, could be effectively and immediately implemented while still enabling the CIP program to fulfill its mission, i.e., to provide cataloging in advance of publication for those U.S. books that are widely acquired by the nation's libraries.

During the moratorium, the cataloging divisions have implemented a number of procedural changes and planned others that will be implemented in the future. These changes have decreased the amount of time required to prepare CIP data. During the last quarter of fiscal 1990, the amount of time to process a CIP application—from the day it is received in the division to the day the completed data are sent to the publisher—averaged 7.2 days for most titles.

This is particularly encouraging in light of the fact that in fiscal 1990, production increased 4.2 percent, despite the moratorium.

With the addition of a number of new positions in the Cataloging Directorate and continuing efforts to gain efficiencies by modifying procedures, the CIP Division expects to handle the additional influx in production anticipated with the termination of the moratorium.

However, the division is also implementing a three-part survey to be distributed to subscribers of MARC tapes, participating publishers and libraries. The survey for MARC tape subscribers is targeted for March distribution, the publisher survey for April and the library survey for August 1991. The data obtained from the survey will better enable the Library to plan the future of the CIP program.

Levering Appointed FLICC Executive Director

Mary Berghaus Levering was recently named executive director of the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC) after serving for 20 months as acting executive director.

Ms. Levering has been with the Library for 25 years. "This has been one of the most challenging times for me," she said when her promotion was announced by Donald C. Curran, associate librarian for Constituent Services.

FLICC was created in 1965 by joint action of LC and the Bureau of the Budget (now the Office of Management and the Budget) to promote better use of federal library and information center resources and facilities through professional development, promotion of services and coordination of resources. Its Federal Library and Information Network (FEDLINK) component, established in 1978, is an organization of libraries and information centers that offers federal agencies cost-effective access to automated services and product and publication procurement.

Ms. Levering came to LC in 1966, when she was selected for the Special Recruit (now Intern) Program in the Program for Outstanding Library School Graduates. She has a B.A. in English and education from the University of Portland, and an M.L.S. from the University of Washington Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences.

From 1967 to 1974, Ms. Levering held positions of increasing responsibility within the Office of Director for Acquisitions and Overseas Operations, Processing Department, helping to plan and administer LC's acquisitions programs and working on a shared-cataloging project involving more than 125 foreign and U.S. research libraries.

From 1975 to 1978, as assistant coordinator of review for LC's Congressional Research Service (CRS), she evaluated and cleared research material for release to Congress and coordinated development and design of an automated program to track congressional inquiries and CRS data. During this time, she completed studies at Georgetown University Law Center, serving as senior editor for the journal *Law and Policy in International Business.*

After two years as assistant chief of the Network Development Office, National Library Service for the Blind and Physicially Handicapped (NLS/BPH), Ms. Levering was made chief of the Network Division in 1980. She managed NLS/BPH's support in such areas as network services, consumer relations, inventory management, reference and music for 200 state and local libraries providing services to 700,000 blind and physically handicapped readers.

On Oct. 24–25 the Science and Technology Division hosted a joint LC-Special Libraries Association workshop, "Science and Technology at the Library of Congress." Twenty-four science librarians from across the country participated in a series of sessions that introduced them to LC's extensive resources and programs. Some of the LC staff who participated were (from left) Ruth S. Freitag, Leonard C. Bruno, Constance Carter, John A. Feulner, Ronald S. Wilkinson and Joseph W. Price. *Photo by James Olsen*

Designs on Washington: Paulette Green of the Loan Division models a new scarf available for $22.95 from the Madison Sales Shop. It is a reproduction of a 1792 scarf-map featuring Pierre Charles L'Enfant's plan of the city of Washington, which was made to stimulate the sale of lots in the nation's capital on the banks of the Potomac.

LC's American Memory Program Seeks Test Sites

Starting in the fall, the Library will conduct a user evaluation of the American Memory program, and would like to hear from libraries interested in serving as test sites.

The Library will lend software to test sites in the form of compact discs (CD-ROM) and videodiscs. Sites must furnish their own hardware. The evaluation will guide the Library as it continues to develop this new program.

American Memory will offer a selection of the Library's American history and culture collections on CD-ROM, videodisc and, in the future, via telecommunication. It has drawn its multimedia collections from the Library's holdings of photographs, manuscripts, motion pictures, books, and sound recordings. Each electronic collection is an indexed archive of primary documents with little or no editing. Some collections are accompanied by an interactive, computerized program that introduces and interprets the collection. A few collections will also offer printed guides containing historical background and suggestions as to how users can effectively use the collection.

Although varied in content, the first American Memory collections focus on history and the social sciences. They illuminate several time periods, with the strongest emphasis on the period spanning 1880–1920; First-Person Narratives of California, 1849–1900; Ethnic Folk Music from Northern California, 1938–1940; Films of President William McKinley and the Pan-American Exposition, 1901; and Life Histories from the Federal Writer's Project, 1936–1939.

The Library hopes that this evaluation project will reveal the types of collections users want. The majority of available collections will require an Apple Macintosh computer, but some will run on IBM-compatible computers. The Library will look to this evaluation for guidance on future hardware choices.

Over time, American Memory will serve a diverse audience, but the Library intends this evaluation to help identify the program's most appropriate first audience. The Library hopes for approximately 30 test sites, diverse in types of library, geographic location, resources, and American Memory uses and users. The evaluation will employ brief questionnaires, telephone interviews and, in a few cases, site visits. The evaluation period will range from six to nine months.

Applications are due April 21, 1991. Notification of selected sites will be May 1. Evaluation begins Oct. 1 and ends June 1, 1992.

For an application to be considered as a potential site, contact American Memory User Evaluation, Special Projects Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540. Telephone: (202) 707-6233, Fax: (202) 707-9898.

Ruth Thomas Named Field Director Of LC Nairobi Office

Ruth A. Thomas has been appointed field director of the Library of Congress office in Nairobi, Kenya.

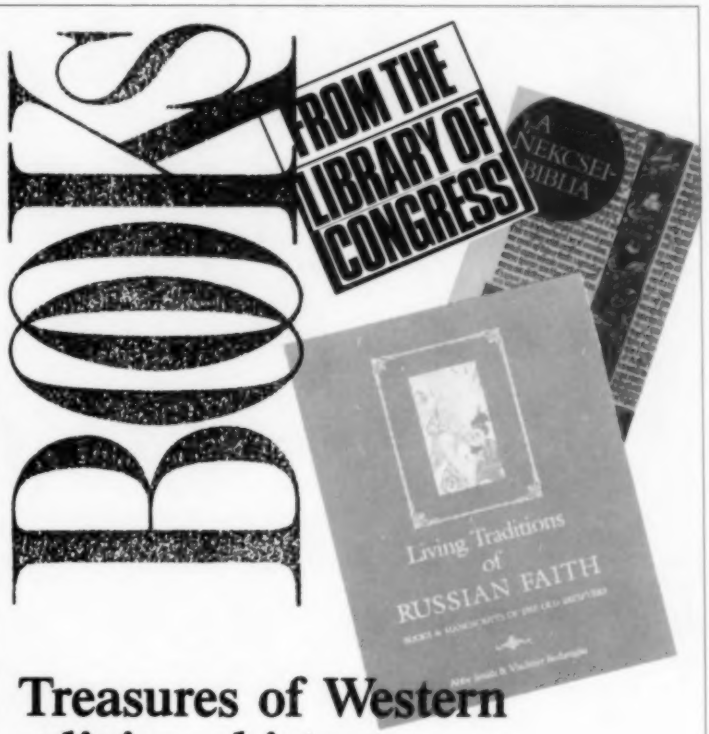
Born in Darke County, Ohio, Mrs. Thomas earned a B.S. and an M.L.S. from Indiana University. A resident of Kenya since 1960, Mrs. Thomas has served in various capacities in the Library's Nairobi office and has traveled extensively in the 21-country region served by the office.

Since 1983 she has been assistant field director/bibliographic services.

"The Reading," by Pablo Picasso

Center for the Book Seeks Help for Project

Postcards depicting people reading are being collected by the Center for the Book for a special "1991-The Year of the Lifetime Reader" project. Cards showing readers in paintings, sculpture and other works of art are especially welcome. Please send the postcards to Center for the Book, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.



Treasures of Western religious history

Nekcsei Bible: Facsimile of Selected Illuminated Manuscripts. The Nekcsei Bible, an example of the medieval illuminator's art at its pinnacle just prior to the invention of movable type, is one of the great cultural artifacts of 14th-century Europe. It was purchased by the Library of Congress in 1873.

In 1988 the Library and Helikon Kiado of Budapest undertook to reproduce a selection of the most beautiful and historically important illuminated pages. No effort was spared to attain the utmost fidelity to the originals in every aspect. The resulting facsimile volume, with 108 illuminations of full color and gold and full iconographic notation, presents the heart of this priceless treasure. Scholars, historians, and collectors and lovers of fine books will all find rich ground for exploration in this very limited edition. 236 pages, with slipcase and accompanying letterpress booklet. **$250.00**

Living Traditions of Russian Faith: Books and Manuscripts of the Old Believers, by Abby Smith and Vladimir Budaragin. A sumptuously illustrated catalog containing detailed descriptions of the 25 books and manuscripts of the "Old Believers" that were loaned by the USSR for an historic exhibit at the Library of Congress in May 1990. Illustrated with 32 plates, all but nine in full color. 52 pages. **$12.50**

Both books are available at the Library of Congress Gift Shop. They may also be ordered by mail from: Box J, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540. Please include an additional $3.50 ($6.50 for Nekcsei Bible) to cover shipping and handling.

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